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Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Michigan Historical Museum

Lansing, Michigan

September 14, 2009

Call to Order

President Bus Spaniola called the of the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History, Inc. (Friends) to order at 10:12 A.M.

Board Members Present: Larry Griffin, Keith Harrison, John Irwin, Rose Moye, Richard Johnson, Charles Seeley, Bus Spaniola, Louise Stilwill, Paul Tarr, Morris Thomas, Tom Truscott, Bill Wellman, and Geneva Wiskemann.

Board Members Absent: Adriana Greci Green and Ralph Sims.

Board Members Excused: Adriana Greci Green and Ralph Sims.

Michigan Historical Museum (Museum) Staff Present: Martha Bloomfield and Phil Kwiatkowski.

Guests Present: Chris Dancisak.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as it is changed during the course of the meeting; motion passed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve as transmitted the minutes from the August Board meeting; motion passed.

President's Report

President Spaniola and the Board discussed in detail the Governor's Executive Order to eliminate the Department of History, Arts, and Libraries, what it may mean to the Friends as an organization and to its membership, and the next steps to be taken by the Friends. A consensus was reach regarding a plan of action to initiate. President Spaniola indicated the Board's Executive Committee would follow up with the plan of action.

Treasurer Report

BALANCE	08-01-09	7,078.24
Cashed Checks		
1456 State of Michigan	\$ 20.00	
1457 Walker Tavern	\$ 89.80	
1458 Fayette	\$ <u>16.60</u>	
Total	\$126.40	-126.40
BALANCE	08-31-09	6,951.84
Benevolent Fund	\$ 50.00	

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A motion was made and seconded to approve, as transmitted, the Treasurer's report for the period August 1 – August 31, 2009; motion passed.

Presentation of Bills

No bills that were not otherwise previously approved were presented.

Museum Report

Martha Bloomfield indicated that a policy had been set up regarding the Friends' Display Board. The display board will need to be signed out (provide name, telephone number, and email address) when needed by the Friends for an event. It will need to be signed back in when returned. The display board will be on the 5th floor. It also was indicated that several pictures would be updated. Paul Tarr indicated that he could provide some new pictures.

Committee Reports

A. *2009 Veterans Day Program Committee. (Paul Tarr and Larry Griffin – Co chairs):* Paul Tarr reported that our initial speaker will not be able to attend; however, an alternative will be obtained and the topic will remain unchanged for the program.

B. *Membership Committee (Keith Harrison – Chair).* Keith Harrison reported the Jackson event was well attended and that as far as he knew, the display board was staffed most of the day both Saturday and Sunday. Thanks go to Charles Seeley, Bus Spaniola, Paul Tarr, and Ralph Sims. The Jackson event garnered over 40,000 visitors. Hopefully, we picked some more members as a result.

C. *Board Nominating Committee (Charles Seeley and Tom Truscott).* No report.

D. *Magazine/Military Committee (Paul Tarr – Chair).* No report.

E. *Grants Committee (Adriana Greci Green - Chair).* No report.

F. *Newsletter Committee (Paul Tarr and Bill Wellman, Co-chairs).* Bill Wellman indicated that the newsletter should be going out in about seven days.

G. *Fund Raising Committee (Bus Spaniola - Chair).* President Spaniola reported that the Charlevoix trip had to be cancelled due to not enough people having signed up. It is hoped that the 2010 trip still may go forward.

H. *Calendar (2011) Committee (Tom Truscott & Rose Moye, Co-chairs).* No report.

I. *Byalws (Paul Tarr – Chair).* This report and action were tabled.

Old Business

A. *License Plates.* President Spaniola indicated that the bill most likely is dead given the demise of the Department of History, Arts, and Libraries.

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B. *IRS Group Exemption Application Status.* There has been no notification regarding the Friends' letter application to the Internal Revenue Service for a Group Exemption Number.

New Business

It was suggested that the Board might be able to meet in the museum storage area at some future date. President Spaniola indicate that he would check into that option.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:39.

Respectively submitted,

Keith G. Harrison

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary
Board of Directors
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, October 12, 2009, in Lansing.